

IN THE CLAIMS:

The instant amendment cancels claims 61 and 62. After the entry of the instant amendment, the claims will be:

Claims 1-20 (cancelled).

21. (previously presented) A method of applying a design to a building or civil engineering work, the method operating with an application device having paint application elements, the method comprising:

 a first step, the first step including

 positioning a stationary component,

 receiving first data corresponding to geometric properties of features of an external surface of a building or civil engineering work ,
 and

 generating second data, the second data depending on the first data corresponding to the geometric properties of the features of the external surface and depending on data corresponding to the design; and

 a second step, the second step being performed after completion of the first step, the second step including

 moving the application device on the external surface,

 measuring a position of a non-stationary component relative to the stationary component, the non-stationary component being attached to the application device, and

 controlling the paint application elements by selecting a portion of the second data, the portion selected being determined by the measuring step, to apply paint on the external surface, wherein paint is not applied at positions that have already been fully painted in accordance with the second data.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein measuring a position

includes using a measuring method based on linear propagation of light or sound between the non-stationary component and the stationary component.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein measuring a position includes measuring based on angles or wave propagation time between the non-stationary component and the stationary component.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein measuring a position includes using a camera or a light- or laser-source or a reflecting or absorbing landmarks or a visual feature or position sensitive device (PSD).

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein measuring a position includes measuring according to an Inside-Out method, or, according to an Outside-In method.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 21, further including measuring a movement of the application device by measuring a linear or rotational velocity, or a linear or rotational acceleration , wherein the portion of the second data selected is also determined by the step of measuring movement.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further including
recording an image of a portion of the external surface by using a scanner or camera attached to the application unit; and
extracting position relevant features from the recorded image, the features including visual features of previously applied paint or a reference pattern or structural features.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further including measuring a movement of the application device, and using a result of the step of measuring a movement when, due to disturbed intervisibility between the non-stationary

component and the stationary component , the step of measuring a position is unable to provide valid position data.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein, if within a region of the external surface the step of measuring a position is unable to provide valid position data due to disturbed intervisibility, paint in this region is applied by moving the application device from a point of valid position into that region, whereby the position of the paint application elements is determined by a step of measuring movement.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein messages are generated for an operator, the messages indicating, if the step of measuring a position has available a valid position or not.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein paint application is suppressed, if the position could not be evaluated sufficiently exact.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the application device is moved manually, by an autonomous robot or by cable.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the application device is maintained in contact with the external surface by use of a rolling or sliding element.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein application of paint beside a region containing previously applied wet paint is performed by moving the application device alongside the region such that a number of paint application elements laterally protrude over the rolling or sliding element and overlap this region.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the paint application elements employ methods of compressed air spraying, air mix spraying, supercritical spraying, hot spraying or drop on demand methods.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein different coating materials are applied by the application device in parallel, the coating materials including a ground coat, a conversion coat or a fixing coat.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein controlling the paint application elements includes taking into account that, due to the movement of the paint application device, the position of a paint application element is located in movement direction by the amount of a position offset ahead a measured real time position of the paint application element.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the first data is generated using the stationary component.

39. (previously presented) amended The method of claim 21 wherein measuring a position of a non-stationary component relative to the stationary component further includes

measuring a position of the non-stationary component relative to a plurality of stationary components.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 further including generating the first data by measuring a physical characteristic of the external surface.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein generating the second data includes compensating for features on the external surface.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 further including generating the first data by measuring a color of the external surface.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 41 wherein generating the second data

includes generating the second data to compensate for colors on the external surface.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein positioning a stationary component comprises positioning the stationary component in a way allowing the position of the non-stationary component to be measured relative to the stationary component within only a subportion of the external surface.

Claims 45-62 (cancelled).

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 further including
generating a message advising an operator;
responsive to the message, bringing the application device into contact with the external surface at a point of known position; and
moving the application device into the region of the external surface within which the step of measuring a position is unable to provide valid position data due to disturbed intervisibility.